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P56378**AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS**

Please add new claims 52-56 to read as follows:

1 1. (Previously Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles, comprising:

3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
5 in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon
6 oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the
7 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than
8 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 2. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, wherein the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is 67.8
3 cSt at 40° C.

1 3.(Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, wherein the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil at
3 240°C.

1 4. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the

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2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, wherein the copolymer a triblock copolymer with
3 about 30 weight percent of polystyrene end blocks and about 70 weight percent of a poly(ethylene-
4 butylene) mid block.

1 5. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 1, wherein the hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight percent
3 and the at least one copolymer is 16.2 weight percent of the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the
4 at least one copolymer.

1 6. (Previously Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles, comprising:

3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
5 in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the
6 weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and
7 the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and
8 the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 7. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, wherein the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is 67.8
3 cSt at 40° C.

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1 8. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, wherein the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is at
3 240°C.

1 9. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles as set forth in claim 6, wherein the copolymer is a triblock copolymer with
3 about 30 weight percent of polystyrene end blocks and about 70 weight percent of a poly(ethylene-
4 butylene) mid block.

10-14. (Canceled)

1 15. (Previously Amended) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition for the
2 manufacture of candles, consisting essentially of:
3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and
4 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
5 in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the
6 weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and
7 the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and
 the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

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1 16. (Previously Amended) The transparent, elastic and free standing composition as set forth
2 in claim 15, wherein the hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight percent and the at least one copolymer is
3 16.2 weight percent of the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

17-20. (Canceled)

1 21. (Previously Amended) A free standing candle, comprising:
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and
3 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
4 in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon
5 oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the
6 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than
7 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C, the candle
8 maintaining a free standing condition even when the candle is lit by means of a flame produced as
9 consequence of the combustion of a candlewick that extends through the candle and projects toward
10 outside an end of the candle.

1 22. (Previously Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, wherein the
2 candlewick is a cotton string imbibed in an alcoholic solution of vegetal resin.

1 23. (Previously Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, wherein the

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2 candlewick is firmly retained in a passing hole, the passing hole is produced in the candle when the
3 mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the copolymer is at room temperature, and the passing hole
4 extends through the candle in longitudinal correspondence to an axis of symmetry extending from
5 a lower base of the candle.

1 24. (Previously Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, wherein the
2 candle is formed by union of a plurality of different minor portions, each of the minor portions being
3 individually formed of the hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight
4 percent and the at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock
5 polymers in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 weight percent, the weight percent of the
6 hydrocarbon oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to the mixture
7 of the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being
8 greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 25. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising
2 coloring essences in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

1 26.(Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising
2 aromatic fragrances in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

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1 27. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:
2 air bubbles in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the
3 air bubbles being distributed through the candle formed by the mixture.

1 28. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:
2 decorative elements, the decorative elements being provided in the mixture forming the
3 candle so as to be visible from outside of the candle.

1 29. (Previously Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 28, wherein the
2 decorative elements are arranged in the candle so as to be placed outside a portion of the candle
3 adjacent to the candlewick.

1 30. (Previously Amended) The candle as set forth in claim 21, wherein the hydrocarbon oil
2 is 83.8 weight percent and the at least one copolymer is 16.2 weight percent of the mixture including
3 the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer.

1 31. (Previously Amended) A free standing candle, comprising:
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent; and
3 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
4 in a proportion of from 12 to 27 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the

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5 weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and
6 the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and
7 the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C, the candle maintaining a free
8 standing condition even when the candle is lit by means of a flame produced as consequence of the
9 combustion around a candlewick borne by the candle.

1 32. (Previously Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, wherein the
2 candlewick is a cotton string imbibed in an alcoholic solution of vegetal resin.

1 33. (Previously Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, wherein the
2 candlewick is firmly retained in a passing hole, the passing hole is produced in the candle when the
3 mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the copolymer is at room temperature, and the passing hole
4 extends through the candle in longitudinal correspondence to an axis of symmetry extending from
5 a lower base of the candle.

1 34. (Previously Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, wherein the
2 candle is formed by union of a plurality of different minor portions, each of the minor portions being
3 individually formed of the hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from 73 to 88 in weight percent and
4 the at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers in a
5 proportion of from 12 to 27 weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon oil and the weight
6 percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to the mixture of the hydrocarbon oil and the

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7 at least one copolymer, the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 32 cSt at 40°C, and
8 the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than 220°C.

1 35. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:
2 coloring essences in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

1 36. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:
2 aromatic fragrances in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one
3 copolymer.

1 37. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:
2 air bubbles in the mixture including the hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, the
3 air bubbles being distributed through the candle formed by the mixture.

1 38. (Original) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:
2 decorative elements, the decorative elements being provided in the mixture forming the
3 candle so as to be visible from outside of the candle.

1 39. (Previously Amended) The free standing candle as set forth in claim 38, wherein the
2 decorative elements are arranged in the candle so as to be placed outside a portion of the candle

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3 adjacent to the candlewick.

40. (Cancelled)

1 41. (Withdrawn) A process of manufacturing a transparent, elastic and free standing candle
2 body, comprising the steps of:

3 preparing a mixture comprising a hydrocarbon oil and at least one copolymer selected from
4 the group consisting of triblock polymers and diblock polymers, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is in
5 a proportion from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is greater
6 than 32 cSt at 40°C, and a flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is greater than 220°C, and said at least
7 one copolymer is in a proportion from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent;

8 stirring the mixture to make the mixture transparent;

9 pouring the mixture in a mold;

10 cooling the mixture in the mold to produce a candle body; and

11 demolding the candle body from the mold to obtain a transparent, elastic and free standing
12 candle body.

1 42. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil is
2 67.8 cSt at 40° C.

1 43. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is

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2 at 240 °C.

1 44. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the copolymer is a triblock copolymer
2 of "Kraton® G 1652".

1 45. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is 83.8 weight
2 percent and said at least one copolymer is 16.2 weight percent of the mixture.

1 46. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the stirring step is conducted at a
2 temperature ranging from 80 °C to 160 °C.

1 47. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the temperature of the mixture at the
2 pouring step is in the range from 150 °C to 160 °C to provide the clear and transparent candle body.

1 48. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, wherein the temperature of the mixture at the
2 pouring step is in the range from 100 °C to 120 °C to provide the candle body having air bubbles.

1 49. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 41, further comprising the step of:
2 before the cooling step, placing a decorative element in the mold.

1 50. (Previously added) A transparent, elastic and free standing composition, comprising:

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2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion of from about 75 to about 88 in weight percent; and
3 at least one copolymer selected from the group of triblock polymers and diblock polymers
4 in a proportion of from about 12 to about 25 in weight percent, the weight percent of the hydrocarbon
5 oil and the weight percent of the at least one copolymer being in relation to a mixture of the
6 hydrocarbon oil and the at least one copolymer, a viscosity of the hydrocarbon oil being greater than
7 32cSt at 40°C, with said hydrocarbon oil and said copolymer combined to provide an elastic mass
8 that remains free standing while bearing a flame from combustion of said elastic mass.

1 51. (Previously added)The transparent, elastic and free standing composition of claim 50,
2 wherein a flash point of the hydrocarbon oil is greater than 220°C.

1 52. (New) A candle, comprising:
2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion from about 73 to about 88 weight percent, said hydrocarbon
3 oil being liquid within a temperature range between 0 °C and 200 °C, said hydrocarbon oil having
4 a density at 20 °C of not less than 0.88 kg/L, said hydrocarbon oil being transparent, said
5 hydrocarbon oil having a viscosity of not less than 32 cSt at 40 °C, said hydrocarbon oil having a
6 flash point of not less than 220 °C; and
7 at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymer and diblock
8 copolymer, said copolymer in a proportion from about 12 to about 27 weight percent,
9 said candle being elastic and transparent, said candle maintaining a free standing condition
10 even when the candle is lit.

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1 53. (New) A candle, comprising:

2 a candle body comprising:

3 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion from about 73 to about 88 weight percent; and

4 at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymer and
5 diblock copolymer, said copolymer in a proportion from about 12 to about 27 weight percent,
6 said candle body being elastic and transparent, said candle maintaining a free standing
7 condition even when the candle is lit; and

8 a wick placed in said candle body,

9 said candle being without a container for holding said candle when the candle is lit.

1 54. (New) A candle, comprising:

2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion from about 73 to about 88 weight percent; and

3 a triblock copolymer with about 30 weight percent of polystyrene end block and about 70
4 weight percent fo a poly(ethylene-butylene)mid block, said coplymer having a tensile strength of
5 about 4,500 psi, an elongation at break of about 500 percent, modulus at 300 percent extension of
6 about 700 psi,

7 said candle being elastic and transparent, said candle maintaining a free standing condition
8 even when the candle is lit.

1 55. (New) A candle, comprising:

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2 a hydrocarbon oil in a proportion from about 73 to about 88 weight percent, said hydrocarbon
3 oil having a feature of remaining liquid within a temperature range between 0 °C and 200 °C, said
4 hydrocarbon being transparent, said hydrocarbon having a viscosity of 67.8 cSt at 40 °C, said
5 hydrocarbon having a flash point of 240 °C; and
6 at least one copolymer selected from the group consisting of triblock copolymer and diblock
7 copolymer, said copolymer in a proportion from about 12 to about 27 weight percent,
8 said candle being elastic and transparent, said candle maintaining a free standing condition
9 even when the candle is lit.

1 56. (New) The candle of claim 55, wherein said hydrocarbon oil is in a proportion from about
2 83.8 weight percent and said hydrocarbon has a viscosity of 67.8 cSt at 40 °C and a flash point of
3 240 °C, and said copolymer is in a proportion from about 16.2 weight percent.